

# **WEEKLY UPDATE**

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT



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### **ISRAELI EXCHANGE**

Nancy Ryan and Eric Kamienski [Water Resources] provided a tour of the lake, dams and adjacent development to two Israeli visitors from the Be'er Sheva River Park Project in the Negev Desert of Israel. Their project will improve five miles of a perennial water course in Be'er Sheva and the surrounding communities. The project contemplates leaving the river bed untouched because of the seasonal floods that pass through development of trails, recreational lakes, amphitheater, preservation of an archeological site, sports fields and botanical park. Be'er Sheva River Park has some surprising similarities to the uses in Rio Salado. The visitors were most impressed with how Tempe had dammed the river, yet still allows flood waters to pass. It brought an entirely new perspective that they had not considered.

"Negev" in Hebrew means south. Israel's Negev Desert comprises 66%, over 6,700 square miles, of Israel. Triangular in shape, with Be'er Sheva as its northern base, the Negev has an arid and semi-arid climate similar to Tempe which is defined according to average rainfall [2 - 6 inches].

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## BITING DOWN ON BLIGHT

Tim 'Demo-Man' Jones took down another corner of Tempe on Wednesday, when he and his team demolished two houses at Howe Avenue and the Loop 101 access road near Apache Boulevard. The area had a significant problem with drugs, gangs and blight, and a large number of police calls had been made from this vicinity. The overall condition of the homes was beyond salvage. A new project, **Howe Avenue Condominiums**, is being proposed for the land.

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### **BREAKFAST + BRAINS**

Economic Development staff held two research-related events in cooperation with ASU's **Ira A. Fulton School of Engineering**: a **Discovery Series** tour and a **Research Breakfast Forum**. Both monthly events will continue throughout the academic year. These events generate much interest in the work being done at ASU and raise the profile of Tempe's technology-based economic development program. Please visit the following websites for details on future events:

www.fulton.asu.edu/fulton/departments/research/documents/**DiscoverySeries**06-07REVISED3.pdf www.fulton.asu.edu/fulton/departments/research/documents/**RESEARCH**BREAKFAST**FORUM**1.pdf



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# **BUILDING ON CENSUS**

Statistics from the *2005 Census* are available. Here is a brief overview of Tempe residents: **POPULATION** 166.171

MEDIAN AGE 28.4

RACE
White 138,057
Black 4,910
American Indian 3,837
Asian 7,595
Pacific Islander 412
Hispanic or Latino, all races 36,500

#### **EDUCATION**

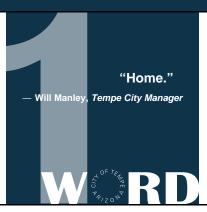
Children over 3 enrolled in school
Associate's Degree
Bachelor's Degree
Graduate Degree
High school diploma
Bachelor's degree or higher

58,381
58,381
58,698
22,634
6730
14,307
90.2%
83.4%

TOTAL HOUSEHOLDS 66,893
MEAN INCOME \$59,060
MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME \$45,644
HOUSEHOLDS EARNING \$200,000+ 1,764
WORKFORCE 99,546
OCCUPATIONS

Management Professional 35,391
Sales and office 27,383
Education 18,677
Scientific 16,002
Finance, insurance, real estate 8,356

www.census.gov



# **ONE WORD**

The WEEKLY UPDATE is beginning a new reoccurring feature called ONE WORD. In short, we are asking a wide-range of local and state leaders, business owners, coworkers, citizens and celebrities to describe how they would characterize or encapsulate Tempe only using ONE WORD. This word is not limited in any way, and might include any of the following elements:

- Issue-oriented - Personal - Sarcastic - Serious - Romantic - Humorous

- Vision-oriented

- Inspiring

- History-oriented

Which ONE WORD would you use to describe Tempe? Make your submittal to eric\_hansen@tempe.gov.

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# WELCOME PULTE HOME

Pulte Homes have completed some of their condo units along Rio Salado Parkway. The units range in size from approximately 1,200 to 1,700 square feet. The first building will close to buyers in September. The entire project will be completed by March or April 2007. More details:

www.pulte.com/homefinder/community.asp?DCMP=browsegrid&commorg\_acctcode=1217

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CENTERPOINT ON MILL CONCEPTUAL PLANS DFD CornoyerHedrick, Architects



KML MOSAIC RENDERING NWC Ash Ave. + University Dr.



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